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CHINESE MIDDLE SCHOOLS ADOPTED NEW CURRICULUM

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In response to the demands of national economic construction, the Ministry of Education has revised and adopted a new middle school curriculum which conforms with the latest Soviet experiences in education. The trial period for the new curriculum is from August 1953 to July 1954. In case of local hardships, each municipal and provincial office of education may adjust the curriculum to meet local conditions, and will report such adjustment to the Ministry of Education.

Junior Middle School

The revised curriculum includes the following changes in the junior middle school:

1. The teaching time for Botany and Zoology has been increased to 1 1/2 years.
2. General Hygiene has been added to the first year. However, to avoid confusion in the trial year, General Hygiene may not be given.
3. Chemistry will be taught in the third year. If local conditions are not altogether favorable for teaching the subject, the teaching time may be reduced.
4. To avoid duplication in the History Department, World History has been changed to Ancient World History, and Chinese History has been changed to Ancient Chinese History. However, to avoid confusion in the trial year, Ancient Chinese History may not be given.
5. The Basic Course in the Chinese Revolution has been added to the curriculum, and the textbook will be the Political Reader, Volume I, published by the Jen-min Ch'u-pan She.
6. The teaching time for Arithmetic, Algebra, and Geometry has been increased.

Senior Middle School

In the senior middle school the following changes were made:

1. Analytical Geometry has been dropped since it belongs to the curriculum of the higher schools.
2. The teaching time for Algebra, Geometry, and Trigonometry has been increased.
3. Physiology, formerly Physical Hygiene, has been shifted to the first year of senior middle school.
4. Darwinism has been transferred to the second year of senior middle school.

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5. Because of a shortage of teachers, the subject Current Government Policies has been abolished, and instead weekly meetings on current events will be held. The subject Common Program has been added to the curriculum, and the Reader on the Chinese Revolution, Volume II may be used as the textbook.

6. According to present plans, Basic Scientific Socialism will use as a text Lectures on Basic Scientific Socialism.

7. Soviet modern history will be taught in the second year in Modern World History.

8. Chinese Economic Geography has been added to the curriculum.

As a result of the revision, the total number of courses has been reduced as compared with 1951.

The school year is 36 weeks divided into two semesters of 18 weeks each; the third years of the junior and senior middle school are 35 weeks. All classes devote 2 weeks to review work during the year. Four weeks and 3 days are devoted to examinations for the third years of junior and senior middle school, and 3 weeks and 3 days for the other years. A teaching period is 45 minutes.

The new curriculum schedules for the junior and senior middle school follow:

JUNIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

<u>Subject</u>	<u>First Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>	<u>Second Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>	<u>Third Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>
Chinese	7	7	6
Arithmetic	7		
Botany	2	3*	
General Hygiene	1		
Ancient World History	3	3*	
Natural Geography	3		
Foreign Language**	3	3	3
Physical Education	2	2	2
Music	1	1	1
Algebra		3	3
Geometry		2	2
Physics		3 and 2***	2
Zoology		3*	2

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<u>Subject</u>	<u>First Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>	<u>Second Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>	<u>Third Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>
Ancient Chinese History		3*	3
World Geography		2 and 3***	
Basic Course in the Chinese Revolution		2	2
Chemistry			2 and 3***
Chinese Geography			3 and 2***

* Botany, second year, is given the first semester. Zoology, second year, is given the last semester. Ancient World History, second year, is given the first semester. Ancient Chinese History, second year, is given the last semester.

** Either Russian or English may be taught, depending on local conditions.

*** The first figure refers to the periods for the first semester, and the second figure refers to the periods for the last semester.

SENIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

<u>Subject</u>	<u>First Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>	<u>Second Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>	<u>Third Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>
Chinese	6	6	5
Algebra	3	2	2
Geometry	2	2	2
Trigonometry		2	2
Physics	3	2	4
Chemistry	2	2	3
Physiology	2		
Darwinism		2	
Modern World History	3	3*	
Modern Chinese History		3**	3
Chinese Economic Geography	2		
Foreign Economic Geography		2	

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<u>Subject</u>	<u>First Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>	<u>Second Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>	<u>Third Year</u> <u>(periods</u> <u>per week)</u>
Basic Course in Scientific Socialism	2	2	
Common Program			2
Foreign Language***	4	4	4
Physical Education	2	2	2
Mechanical Drawing	1	1	1

* Given the first semester.

** Given the last semester.

*** Either Russian or English may be taught, depending upon local conditions.

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